

Wausau Area Montessori Charter School Governance Council

Minutes of August 15, 2023 Meeting

Tyler Berg (5:57)

Attendees:

Alisia Jones
BethanyStookey
Casandra Feidt
Casey Jensen

Dana Moore
Elizabeth
Channel
Kate Schuster
Tiffany Rodriguez Lee
Chris Dietsche

Excused Absence:

Julie Schell

Unexcused Absence:

1. Call to order & Welcome

- 5:35 called to order

2. Public comments

- No public comment

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes

- Dana moved to approve the July 18, 2023 meeting minutes; Chris seconded.
 - The motion passed unanimously with no discussion.
- Tiffany moved to approve the August 3, 2023 and August 9, 2023 special meeting minutes, Cassandra seconded.
 - The motion passed unanimously with no discussion.

4. Head of School report (Elizabeth Channel)

- Thank you to governance council for participating in the special meetings this month.
- Budget for 2022-23 = -\$2,073.59 (due to late-/non-repayment of MMUN fees) •
Budget for 2023-24 = \$14,974.00
 - July balance = \$14,813.08
- 2 prospective family tours in July
- Current enrollment for 2023-24: 108 (+5 on waitlist)
 - 17 Kindergarten
 - 18 First Grade (+1 on waitlist) - FULL
 - 18 Second Grade (+3 on waitlist) - FULL
 - 18 Third Grade (+1 on waitlist) - FULL
 - 18 Fourth Grade - FULL
 - 9 Fifth Grade
 - 7 Sixth Grade
 - 3 Seventh Grade

- 1 Eighth Grade

5. District Administration Liaison report (Julie Schell)

- None

6. Faculty/Staff Report (Alisia Jones)

- None

7. Parent Connect Report (Dana Moore)

- Group has been focused on the Open House. Parent Connect plans to be outside so kids can play while parents talk.
- Each officer is sponsoring an event and recruiting volunteers so that the same people are not running each event.
- No new budget number to report (they did not have a full meeting this month). Last budget reported was June 27: \$2529.63 in checking, \$11.53 in savings

8. School board report

- We did not have a council representative reporting on this meeting

9. Check In- Council Terms

- Tiffany received confirmation from Kate, Dana, Tyler and Casey that they will continue into their next term
- Clarification of election process (per bylaws) and annual meeting (per charter contract)
 - Nominating committee solicits for nominees 2 months prior to annual meeting . . . this works out to be FEBRUARY
 - Annual meeting must be held in the second semester . . . this works out to be APRIL
 - Election to be held 1 month following annual meeting . . . this works out to be MAY
- Dana moved to keep current officers in place until the 2024 election. Bethany seconded.
 - The motion passed unanimously.
- At next charter renewal we would like to explore changing the elections and annual meetings to the fall.

10. Enrollment Policy recap

Elizabeth spoke to Cassie Guilbeault, the head of school at Appleton Public Montessori. They carry a waitlist through September and then it is wiped clean (per state statute it must be wiped clean annually). Anyone who wants to be on the waitlist for the following year has to reapply. The new waitlist opens on January 1. Further, they do not accept new students after a certain date during the year (i.e. they do not keep filling open spots throughout the year).

Elizabeth to check with Julie to see if the district would allow us to not accept children for a period of time (e.g., from lottery through end of school year).

- Tiffany moved to table enrollment and strategic plan to September, Cassie seconded.
 - The motion passed unanimously with no discussion.

11.Strategic Plan

- Review and update goal 2
- Add 3K or 9th grade to current offering for new charter contract

12.New School Year Planning

- Open House
 - 4-4:30 -- Tiffany
 - Nobody 4:30-5:00 -- Elizabeth's meeting with all students/parents •
 - 5-5:30 -- Tiffany
 - 5:30-6:00 and cleanup -- (need someone to volunteer)

13.Discussion/Action Items

- For next meeting - In conversation about adding another E2 in 2024-25, would we also consider another Kindergarten/4K?
- For next meeting - Revisit the reading, math, social emotional plan (and publishing) -- could we add this to the strategic plan?

14.Adjourn

- Tiffany moved to adjourn; Tyler seconded.
- The motion passed unanimously with no discussion.
- Meeting ended 6:52